



## **Smethwick Old Church Promoting a Safer Church Policy Statement**

The Parochial Church Council of Smethwick Old Church agreed to adopt all of the House of Bishop's safeguarding policy and practice guidance and The Church of England - Birmingham's procedures

All forms of abuse are wrong and most stop

The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults

involved in Church activities is the responsibility of the whole Church. Everyone who participates in the life of the Church has a role to play in promoting a safer Church for all.

Our commitments:

- Promoting a safe environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults within the Church
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims /survivors of abuse and other affected persons

- Bring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others

We will implement good safeguarding practice by ensuring:

- The welfare of the child, young person and vulnerable adult is paramount
- A leadership commitment, at all levels, to the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults
- Our safeguarding policy is available to all church officers
- A clear line of accountability within our church for work on safeguarding
- Clear reporting procedures to deal with safeguarding concerns and allegations
- We report all concerns and allegations against church officers\* to the Bishop's Safeguarding Adviser and statutory agencies
- Clear roles for church officers\*
- We have clear arrangements for support and/or supervision of church officers\*
- All church officers\* working with or in contact with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults attend diocesan safeguarding training

- Our practice and services are informed by ongoing learning, review and by the views of children, young people, families and vulnerable adults
- Safer recruitment procedures are in place
- Effective working with statutory and voluntary sector partners
- We have publicly advertised arrangements for children, young people and vulnerable adults to be able to speak to an independent person, as required
- Our complaints and whistleblowing procedures are well publicised
- Effective information sharing
- Good record keeping.

If someone is being harmed or is not safe and needs immediate help, dial 999, or contact social care services, or, for a child, the NPSCC Helpline 0808 800 5000

Other useful contacts:

Bishop's Safeguarding Adviser  
07342 993 844

Childline  
0800 1111

Family Lives Helpline  
0808 800 2222

Samaritans  
116 123

Elder Abuse  
0808 808 8141

Domestic Violence Helpline  
0808 801 0327

Men's Domestic Violence Helpline  
0808 801 0327

LGBT Domestic Violence Helpline  
0300 999 5428

National Association of People Ab-  
used in Childhood  
0800 085 3300

Stop It Now! Helpline  
0808 1000 900

Local Authority Adult Social Care  
Services

0121 303 1234 (Birmingham)

0121 569 2266 (Sandwell)

0121 704 8007 (Solihull)

0345 604 2719 (Staffordshire)

01926 412080 (Warwickshire)

01905 768053 (Worcestershire)

Local Authority Children's Social Care  
Services)

0121 303 1888 (Birmingham)

0121 569 3100 (Sandwell)

0121 788 4333 (Solihull)

0800 1313 126 (Staffordshire)

01926 414144 (Warwickshire)

01905 822666 (Worcestershire)

This statement was adopted by  
Smethwick Old Church PCC at Paro-  
chial Church Council Meeting on 12  
September 2019

Signed by:

Incumbent  
Revd Deb Buckley

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Church Warden  
Jean Martin

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Church Warden  
Matthew Turley

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This policy will be reviewed each year  
to monitor the progress which has  
been achieved.

\*A Church Officer is anyone appoin-  
ted by or on behalf of the Church to  
a post or role, whether they are or-  
dained or lay, paid or unpaid.